NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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AGRICULTURE.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

ECONOMY IN BUILDINGS, &c.

MR FESSENDEN —The ground is locked up, the farmer's exertions must relent, and now for him is the time to indulge in thinking, and speculating upon what is passed and what is likely to come. If we look back for twenty-five years, we find that more has been done within that short time, to lay the foundation of great prosperity for agriculture than ever was attempted in any country within the same period. Orchards have been planted all over the land, and shortly this will be a country full of fruit; not only apples, but pears, and the various delicate summer fruits, including grapes. Gentlemen of science and of fortune have given their powerful assistance to collect, and generously to distribute the rare fruits of distant climates; respectable and extensive nurseries have been reared among us, which enable us to find a correct supply at home, and to concentrate there our resources. The cultivation of fruit trees is one of the graces of agriculture, their presence casts a lustre upon the habitation of the owner, and we find that in the various countries of the old world it is attended to in proportion to the perfection to which agriculture has attained; where it flourishes, fruit trees are abundant, and well attended, where it is neglected, they are scarce and desolate. It is within the above period that the various societies for the encouragement of agriculture have been founded; like thrifty branches from a powerful stock, they extend now all over the commonwealth, with great deeds of usefulness already achieved, and promise of incalculable results. As the traveller drives on his way, the land exhibits testimonials that a great revolution has taken place in the mode and manner of farming, and that although the hands of the present farmer are not stronger than those of his grandsire, yet the connection between the head and the hands has got to be better understood, and gives promise of fair results. This, Mr Editor, is the cheering situation in which we are placed, and it is our duty to make the most of it, and to try to find out the means to accelerate that prosperity of which the present times seem to be the dawn. I take it for granted that a farmer ought not to be altogether a man of hard labor, but that his situation should be so far comfortable, that the exertions of the body should not preclude that well balanced state of the frame, which admits of habitual freedom, and clearness of mind, so that his various operations may be calculated in the best manner to procure the intended results. We must also admit that improvements are not to be made on the land to any extent, without sufficient and adequate pecuniary means; tools must be purchased, the alluring and treacherous promises of immediate advantages to be obtained, by over cropping the land, must be resisted, and the safer and sounder course of maintaining the soil in its original strength, must be firmly adhered to; and as a general rule many present advantages must be overlooked and sacrificed, when found likely to retard or defeat the general plan of improvements, which a farmer ought at all times to pursue. Having thus admitted, that the farmer should be free from excessive labor, and the necessity of sufficient ease in his circumstances to carry on his improvements, we are led to speculate upon the means most likely to place him in that happy situation. As those means, generally speaking, ought not to be borrowed, but should be found within himself, I take the liberty to say, that economy will furnish them. A farmer, by the nature of things, ought to be a man of strict economy, his aim onght to be, habitually to prevent waste, in anything, and in all things. After he has paid seventy dollars for his ox wagon, and forty five for the cart, they should not be left exposed to the ardent sun, nor to the rain, but carefully housed under sheds when not in use. Ploughs and tools should be secured in the same way; but the waste which I have more particularly in view, is what results from the nature and manner of our buildings, all wood! If we embrace at one view, as one great concern, the whole commonwealth, (the cities excepted,) the mind is struck with awe at the consideration of the great perishableness of its habitations.—Houses, barns and sheds all built of wood! taking it for granted, that upon an average those buildings should last three generations, it follows as a matter of course that once in every third generation, all the houses, barns and sheds in the commonwealth (the cities excepted) must be built over again; truly this is a great undertaking; this must dig very deep in the pockets of the parties concerned. And if there are yet a few gaps in our walls, a few rocks in our fields, if our lots are getting bare of timber, no man of common justice will wonder at it.

If a proof was needed of the intrepid industry of our yeomanry, none could be adduced more convincing, than their being able to thrive, notwithstanding the dreadful incumbrance of maintaining such habitations. Relieve them of such intolerable burdens, and what a change it would make in their circumstances, and in the state of the country. This manner of building was well adapted to the days of old, it answered the double purpose of clearing the land of some of its timber, and to run up houses quick; now the case is much altered, timber is getting alarmingly scarce, but good building stone abounds, and the resources of the present generation are fully equal, to avail themselves of such a privilege.

It is hard to change old ways, and to adopt new; but if ever there was an imperious call of interest for an alteration, it is in this case. Little accustomed as we are to stone buildings, it may be thought by many that to erect such an one, would be a great undertaking, yet it may be done without either great expense, nor much difficulty. Hammered or chisseled stone is adapted to public buildings, or the houses of the wealthy, and is expensive; but comfortable, decent houses may be built with common stone, such as we would use for good field walls. Such stones laid in strong mortar, will make an excellent building, either by facing the wall with the stones, if fit for the purpose, or by rough casting the wall after it is built. The foundation not to be less than three feet thick; if granite should be handy, it might be split, and pieces selected for the sills and tops of the doors and windows. A farmer would take winter leisure time to collect the materials, and if rightly conducted, there is no doubt but such a house might be built for the same cost, or very little more, than in the present way. In point of comfort, it would be far preferable, because stone houses are warmer in winter, and cooler in summer; as to the durability it may be said, without incurring the charge of exaggeration, that a stone house covered with tiles, and substantially put up, will last three hundred years, and will require little or no repairs, for the first fifty years. In our climate, it happens at times, that very cold weather is succeeded by a thaw, and then severe cold comes again. These changes from extreme to extreme, act powerfully upon the mortar, and will at times loosen it; it would be preferable, on that account, to build facing walls, and avoid rough casting. If the materials for building should be carefully selected, there would be no difficulty to have sufficient stones with a smooth side to lay out, and a good mason will raise his walls, so as to leave but little on the outside to fill up with mortar. In any case a stronger mortar than common, may be made to point the outside of the building. There are, no doubt, various kinds of mortar, or cement, which would answer the purpose; one I will name because I have used it, and found it excellent; the English masons call it blue mortar, from its color, and is made by mixing a small quantity of iron filings, or also the thin scales which fly from red hot iron, when under the hammer upon the anvil, with good strong mortar. It is used for pointing, where the work is much exposed. It should be laid early in the season, because it will take three months to harden, which should be before frost takes place. It will dry to a great degree of hardness, and tenacity, I have never known it to fail, and have been informed that on the forts, in Boston harbor, they have used it, with success, where before, they could get no mortar to stand long.

The great superiority and comfort of stone buildings is sufficiently established, their happy owners may live freed of that continual intercourse with the paint pot the lumber yard, and the cut nails of all sizes and dimensions. It would save the farmer the trouble to look after his mechanicks, the trouble to settle their accounts, the trouble to pay them interest money, and many more troubles which need not be enumerated, because they may be guessed at. The saving him these troubles, would of course save him considerable time, and time is money. His hard earnings would have a better chance to remain among his children, his head free from difficulties, would devise better the progressive improvements of his estate, his thoughts would be easy, and altogether confined to his home. The fertility of Ohio, the nominal low price of farms in the thick forest, and the like dreams, never would obscure his better understanding. The more his estate would be free and unincumbered, the more ambition he would feel to better it, and increase its value for the benefit of his family. I am led to consider the perishableness of our buildings, as the great

and leading cause, which has brought many a farmer into debt, into discouragement, and finally to exile himself and family to distant regions, seldom to realize his hopes, and generally to the great loss of the community of which he was a member. I am further led to the persuasion, that agriculture will never reach amongst us to the state of perfection, of which it is capable, until our buildings shall be substantial and lasting, so that they may be esteemed, as steady habitations, for many generations; and not, until then, will landed estate be esteemed as it ought to be, and reach its real value. The attachment of a people to the spot of their abode, is in some considerable measure, influenced by the more or less stability of the buildings. The Arab lives under a tent, he attempts no cultivation, and is always ready to move; the house and the barn of the Swiss are substantially built of stone, he cultivates his hard soil to a garden, where the soil is deep, he removes part of it to a barren place to extend his cultivation, and many years often will pass away, before a landed estate is offered for sale. I shall close these remarks by observing that it is much with our buildings, as it is with some things of the human kind, the top is the failing point, and it is from thence that the general ruin proceeds; the leakage of a roof will at first settle on the plates, then circulate down the posts to the cills, and it is so that most of the barns go to destruction; the shingling of a large roof, is a great, a troublesome, and expensive job, of course it is put off, and delayed always too long.

A full investigation of the subject, which I have attempted to sketch in this communication, will, perhaps, convince many friends to the progress of agriculture, that it would be proper, and expedient, for the agricultural societies, to offer premiums, and marks of distinction, to every farmer, who should attempt to erect stone buildings.—This great revolution in the manner of building, must certainly take place in time, not only from the propriety of the change itself, but certainly from the necessity of the case. Timber is wearing away fast, the little that remains is oftentimes converted into fire wood and other waste; the timber of the first rate, in the eastern country, is receding more and more from the water courses, and from the sea shore, and old trees which were considered a few years since, as refuse, now find their way to the saw mills; why then, not endeavor to accelerate the great revolution? It would be as proper, and profitable, to give premiums to assist to save the remnant of our timber, by building with stone, as it is to give them for planting forest trees, both measures would strike to the same point, and save the country from getting unprovided with the materials, which ship building and various mechanical purposes require. The rapid erection of manufactories, all over the commonwealth, has increased the necessity of saving what timber remains, since their water works and machinery make a prodigious requirement, and for the first quality. The slow growth of a white oak to its maturity, warns us of the necessity to look to it in time.

Another measure which might assist to save timber, would be to favour the introduction of tiled roofs. We have abundance of clay, and it would be as easy to convert it into tiles, as it is to convert pine, cedar, or perishable spruce into shingles; and it surely would be in the end more profitable. The kind of tiles here alluded to are flat, about twelve inches long, and seven and one half inches wide; about three-eighths of an inch thick; the corners are cut off at the lower end, and there is a knob underneath in the centre at the upper end; that knob is about three inches long and three-quarters of an inch thick. The roof which is to be tiled, has no need to be boarded, but slats made of common boards, about one inch and a half wide, are nailed on the rafters, at the proper distance; on these slats the tiles are laid, resting the knobs on the slats, which prevent them from sliding, the courses then are laid, in the same fashion as shingles, each ascending course covering the joints of the preceding; their combined weight and adhesion, making of the whole cover a firm sheet, which nothing but a great hurricane, like the September blow, would be likely to disturb; in such a case it requires merely to lift the upper tile, to slide under it a new one, where it is wanted, and rest the knob on the slat.

To introduce tiles to your acquaintance, better than by mere description, I had devised in my mind to have had a number of them made, and to have requested of you, Sir, to have taken the trouble of holding them at the disposal of such gentlemen, as might feel an interest in the introduction of this mode of covering, but I have found a greater difficulty to get them made, than I was aware of; the difficulty was, that in baking they got warped, and after several trials during the last summer, all I could get, that were straight, are the few which I take the liberty to send you herewith, for distribution as above. They were baked with other ware, such as pans and pots, and had of course to take their chance among the rest, without an adequate provision for their particular shape and exigencies. Should any person attempt to make a business of tile making, he would of course be prepared with suitable arrangements, and surely would meet with no great difficulty, tile making in Europe being considered as requiring no extra ingenuity. In some parts of England they use tile which have no knobs, but one hole in the centre at the upper end, through which they drive a small oak pin. These would be very suitable for old barns in want of a new covering, because they might be fastened on the boards; upon new buildings, tiles with knobs should have the preference, because the boarding would be saved, and the tiles would be laid quicker, and without risk, the repairs in case of need would also be easier. The rafters of a roof, intended to be tiled, should be braced in proportion to their weight. Tiles of a good quality, may be said to last almost forever, and with an oak frame under them, a building might have a good chance to last and keep in repairs. If tile making should get into fashion, and the article offered at a fair price, there can be no doubt, I believe, but such covering would cost less than shingles, because the boards and the nails would be saved, and the knob tiles laid in a quarter part of the time required for shingling; to these advantages you may add their security against fire, which makes them a very desirable covering for all buildings in the city, as in the country, and an object deserving great consideration with gentlemen engaged in the erection of factories. Wherever clay can be procured, there they can be made. Men used to work that article, as potters and brick makers, could soon initiate themselves into the art and mystery of tile making. They are as lasting as slate, and as safe against fire, but their first cost would be much less, the boarding would be saved, and they would be laid much quicker, being tight against the weather, without the assistance of either mortar or cement.

With much esteem, I am, yours, &c.

Weston, Jan. 22, 1828. J. M. G.

[To the Editor of the American Farmer.]

POPE'S HAND THRESHING MACHINE—

REMARKS ON LABOUR-SAVING MACHINES AND PATENT LAWS.

Mr Editor,—I lately had an opportunity of viewing an operation of *threshing rice with Pope's improved machine*—the exhibition of which was fortuitous; but the result may be interesting to our southern brethren who cultivate that important staple; and being desirous to contribute my feeble efforts towards promoting the prosperity of our whole country, the following statement and remarks are submitted to your disposal—to pass for what they may be worth.

About a year since, I was requested by Mr. Dabney, the United States Consul for the *Azores*, to procure one of *Pope's hand threshing machines* for a friend, who cultivated wheat extensively in the island of Terceira; but as my discretion was relied on, I delayed a compliance till within a few weeks, when one of an improved construction was presented. With its performances on *rye* I was fully satisfied—the straw being completely cleared of grain with astonishing expedition, considering the small size of the machine, and that the moving power was only one man. There being no wheat within a reasonable distance of Boston, and the vessel that was to take out the machine on the point of sailing, I told Mr. Pope that if it would perform well on *rice*, of which he had a small parcel, procured from the south for the purpose of testing his machine, I would dispense with its action on wheat—feeling confident from the effect on *rye*, that all reasonable expectations would be realized.

With the labour of one man to turn, and another to feed, this machine threshed *three sheaves*, thirty inches in length, in something less than a minute, affording a peck of clean rice. It appeared that the feeder was not more than half supplied with material, and that the same power would have acted on double the quantity within the time. I must confess, that I was not prepared to witness so complete an operation. Considering the form of a panicle of rice, so essentially different from an ear of wheat or rye, I was apprehensive that a portion of the peduncles or foot stalks would break off and escape the beaters, or pass through attached singly to the grain. But this was not the case. Indeed it does not appear possible to thresh rice more completely with flails, in the usual way, than was demonstrated in this instance; and if we may judge from the result of an experiment so limited, I think it may be safely estimated that such a machine, with the labor of three men and a boy, will thresh from 150 to 200 bushels of rice in a day—and with the increased velocity which may be attained by the application of animal power, an ordinary mule for instance, double that quantity may be turned out.

The numerous threshing machines, and specious models of them, that were exhibited to the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promotion of Agriculture, during a long period that I had the

honor of a seat at that board, as trustee and vice president of the institution, which proved either complete failures, or, after ephemeral exhibitions and cessation of novelty, "rest from their labors," with attempts at perpetual motion and other abortions, produced by the fecundity of inventive genius in our country—the models of which assist to load the shelves of the Patent Office—induced a degree of caution bordering on scepticism. Certainly no threshing machines have come within my view that inspired any confidence in their general utility, except Pope's—and I never felt a full conviction that even *that* was capable of producing such important results as those to which I have alluded. This machine promises great durability, occupies not more room, and is as portable as a common fanning machine—is simple, and so cheap as to be at the command of middling farmers—cardinal points which mechanicians in general are too apt to overlook For being encouraged by a venial cupidity in the public, they endeavor to get too much of a good thing, whereby their machines are rendered bulky, complicated, and expensive.

It were superfluous to expatiate on the importance of eliciting the invention of simple and efficient *labour-saving* machines, in various departments of husbandry, as well as in the arts; but I cannot withhold the expression of my firm conviction, derived in part from facts recently come to my knowledge, that many valuable inventions and discoveries are kept from the light in consequence of the feeble protection afforded that species of property, or the impunity with which it can be pirated under the patent laws now in force. For it is unquestionably true, that great loss or ruin is inevitable to the man who, with a verdict in his favor, prosecutes for an infringement of his patent!—and like a wreck stranded on a barbarous coast, the greater the value of his invention or discovery, the greater the number and potency of depredators will he have to contend with. Moreover, it is believed, that to the same cause may be attributed the imperfection of numerous machines that have been palmed upon the public. The inventor or mechanician, has little inducement for persevering to bring his machine to the highest state of improvement of which its principles may be susceptible—having no confidence in the laws, but rather viewing them as a trap, commences trapper himself; and so soon as he can render it sufficiently plausible to enable him to sell patent rights, grasps at the modicum offered by jobbers—the construction of the machine is assigned to bunglers, and the utility it might possess soon expires.

Upon what moral principle, or maxims of justice the distinction is founded, or why it is, that property created by astonishing efforts of human intellect, united to years of constant toil, when exhibited in the form of inventions or discoveries that in some instances seem to approximate matter almost to mind, and prove of incalculable benefit to society, should by the same community be held so little sacred and receive from their lawgivers merely nominal protection, while property acquired by professional displays of intellect, and every other pursuit, is most rigidly secured, we shall leave to casuists and societies for the improvement of morals, to discover. But such is the fact that the right to inventions, or what is termed patent property, in relation to any other kind, may be correctly compared to a weak and sickly tree Hosts of insects seize and gorge upon its trunk, fruit and foliage, when not a soul of them, except a few outcasts of their society, dare approach one of the same species that is in sound health and vigor.

It is said to be the boast of our country that her laws are framed to dispense "equal and exact justice to all." We may still hope, that the grand inquest of the nation, will no longer suffer that divine attribute to be defaced by statutes that carry *protection* in their front, but *destruction* to the oppressed who seek for redress under them.

With very cordial esteem,
I remain truly yours,
SAM'L. W. POMEROY.

Brighton, Jan. 22, 1828.

Recovery from Suspended Animation.—A case is recorded in the *Bullet. Univ.* by a French physician, M. Bourgeois, showing the importance of never abandoning all hopes of success in restoring animation. A person who had been 20 minutes under water, was treated in the usual way for the space of an hour without success: when a ligature being applied to the arm, above a vein that had been previously opened, ten ounces of blood were withdrawn, after which the circulation and respiration gradually returned though accompanied by the most dreadful convulsions. A second and a third bleeding was had recourse to, which brought about a favorable sleep, and ultimate recovery on the ensuing day. The public will feel much obliged to M. Bourgeois for his perseverance in so interesting a branch of his profession.—*London Weekly Review.*

A Carriage drawn by Kites.—A short time ago, the passengers in and on the despatch coach at Alesbury, were surprised a few miles from London, by the appearance of the vehicle of Mr. Pocock, of Bristol, containing two passengers, drawn along the turnpike road by the power of artificial kites. The vehicle was running at the rate of 12 miles an hour.

To counteract the Poison of Arsenic.—Whenever arsenic has been taken internally, by design or mistake, the best medicine is sulphuret of potash (liver of sulphur) dissolved in water. A few scruples should be dissolved in half a pint or a pint of water, and administered a little at a time as the patient can bear it.

Guarding single trees in Parks.—What is the simplest, cheapest, and most sightly mode of guarding single trees planted in parks or lawns from the depredations of deer or other animals?—*Answer.* Thorn branches, tied with hazel or willow shoots, and understocking the pastures.—*Loudon.*

Irresistible Temptation.—Next morning the French commenced firing at us: we were ordered not to return it, but to go down to the edge of the river and lie under cover. Here we lay snug enough—but, as in the fable of the boys and the frogs, no sooner did we venture to put up our heads, than a shower of balls, would whistle past us. This was rather a provoking predicament to be in, especially as we were all burning with thirst and the river was running close by us. One of the men, unable to wait longer without drinking, or wishing to show his courage, jumped hastily up and ran down to the river, filled his canteen, and came back safe and sound, contrary to our expectation; the enemy, meanwhile, sending their bullets about his ears like hail. The moment our gentleman arrived, he uncorked his canteen with a triumphant air, saying, at the same time, he would now let us all drink; but lo! what was his surprise, on opening it, not to find any water within—a bullet having pierced the side of his canteen, and allowed every drop to escape. At this adventure, although our tongues nearly clove to our throats, we could not resist the impulse of bursting into a loud laugh—so ludicrous was the countenance of the water-carrier, who prudently declined risking his life a second time.

Viscisitudes of a Scottish Soldier.

Splendid Advantages!—The rest of the army, extendingfrom our regiment to the extreme left, had, during the course of the day, obtained some splendid advantages; so much so, that about dusk a general and rapid retreat commenced along the whole of the enemy's line; upon which every part of our army pursued with rapid strides. Our feelings were destined to experience a severe trial, in passing over the identical ground where our slaughtered comrades lay. As soon as the wounded were aware of our presence, they set up faint cries for water, to assuage the burning thirst which is the inevitable attendant of blood gushing wounds: they even invoked our assistance by name. A young man well known to me, implored my aid with the most piteous language; I had only time to ask in what place of the body he was wounded; the reply was, "in the back," by which I knew that it was mortal. Another man, a sergeant, we saw in a sitting posture, with both of his eyes turned out on his cheeks, a ball having entered the side of his forehead: he, too, called for water. Duty—inexorable duty—compelled us to shut our ears to the horrible distress, and pass on as indifferently as if so many sheep bled in a slaughter-house.—*Ib.*

Our fathers, where are they?—From official documents recently transmitted to Congress, it appears that four hundred and ninety-one revolutionary and invalid pensioners died the year ending the 4th Sep. last; and it is stated that no returns were received from Delaware, Virginia, East Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Alabama, Michigan, or the District of Columbia.

Heating Hot houses with hot water seems coming into vogue. What is your opinion of the mode? What is the best shape of a boiler for that purpose?—*A friend to improvement.*

We have little doubt of hot water superseding both steam and smoke flues; certainly steam. A wrought-iron box boiler we should think the best; but our correspondent may refer to Messrs. Bailey 272 High Holborn, who are now heating several hot-houses in this way.—*Loudon's Mag.*

Internal Improvement.—By the list we have just completed, of canals and rail-roads in the United States, it appears that there are two thousand five hundred and fifty miles of canal completed, or in a forward state; there are one thousand and twenty-four more projected, and which, it is believed, will soon be commenced forming a line of canal equal to the distance from this city to England. There are five hundred and forty-four miles of rail-road contemplated, or twenty-five miles completed or commenced.—*Penn. Gaz.*

GRASSES.

The following is among the articles selected for that valuable work, entitled "Hints for American Husbandmen," &c. published under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society.

On Grasses—Orchard—Rye—Clover—Sainfoin, &c.—their products, comparative values, constituent parts, modes of sowing, managing, quantity, quality of Seeds, and adaptation to particular Soils.

In some plants there is a comparative excess of saline matter, and when such plants are given unmixed with any other to cattle, they are most subject to disease, or continue for a length of time before they improve, however abundant the supply. The following facts, which came within my own immediate observation, may serve as an instance to point out the importance of a mixture of such grasses as possess some difference in the qualities of their nutritive matter; and at the same time they will show, that the bitter extractive is efficacious in correcting the over-succulency, or laxative nature of green food, without the aid of *dry* vegetable fibre.

Two fields were sown down for pasture; one with white clover and trefoil, only, and the other with a variety of the natural grasses, for experiment, with a portion of white clover. The two fields were depastured with sheep. In the inclosure of white clover a considerable quantity of cocksfoot grass grew on the edge of the fence: it was of a very harsh quality, from its unfavorable situation, and consisted almost entirely of culms. In a few days the sheep went to this grass, and ate it down entirely, though there was a profusion of white clover. In the course of time many of the sheep became affected with the disease termed *red-water*, of which several died. But in the adjoining field, which contained the natural grasses, *cocksfoot* grass, rough stalked meadow grass, rye-grass, foxtail-grass, and white clover, the sheep were not affected with that, nor any other disease, and they left untouched the stems of the cocksfoot, which were here of a more tender succulent nature, than those on the edges of the other field, which were so greedily devoured by the clover sheep.

It may remain only to observe, that if the hard stalks of the cock's-foot in the clover field had been in sufficient quantity, they would most probably have prevented the disease from attacking the sheep; but this could not have been by virtue of the *dry fibre* only of the culms, because in the adjoining field, where every thing was contrary to disease, the sheep rejected the culms altogether. The dry, or mechanical action of the culms, was here wanting; yet the animals continued healthy, and fattened, because the bitter extractive was in greater proportion in the leaves or herbage than in the culms which they rejected; and also proved beneficial, though combined with succulent food, which could have nothing of the action of the dry hay or straw before mentioned.

The proportional value which the grass at the time of flowering bears to that at the time the seed is ripe, is as 11 to 10; and to the grass of the latter-math, as 5 to 2.

There has often been occasion to observe, that though grass, when left till the seed be ripe, may afford a greater quantity of nutritive matter, nevertheless the value of the latter-math which is had by this means is often greater than the extra quantity of nutritive matter thus obtained; add to this the impoverishing effects of the plants on the soil by the process of ripening the seed, and the less palatable nature of the hay. The plants of grass are likewise much weakened by the production of seed, for in all the experiments I have made, the produce of latter-math proved always less, in many instances one-half less, in a given time after the seed crop, than after the crop taken at the time of flowering; I never could perceive, however, that the bad effects extended in any degree to the next following season, the weight of produce being then as frequently superior as equal or less.

Rye-grass appears to have been cultivated previous to the year 1677; besides which, red clover, sainfoin, spurrey, trefoil, and nonsuch, were the only plants then cultivated as grasses, or termed such. And it is only of late years that any other species of the natural grasses has been tried as a substitute for it in forming artificial pastures —as cat's-tail grass *(Phleum pratense)*; cocksfoot grass *(Dactylis glomerata)*; and fox-tail grass *(Alopecurus pratensis)*. The cat's-tail grass appears to have been made trial of before either of the other two, not more than fifty years ago, by Mr. Rocque, a farmer at Walhamgreen, near London. The seed of the cocksfoot grass was introduced about the same time from Virginia by the Society of Arts, &c., but no trial was made of it till several years afterwards; it was then called orchard grass; and the merits of which seem to have been first accurately pointed out by the late excellent Mr. Curtis in his several works on grasses.

There has been much difference of opinion respecting the merits and comparative value of rye-grass. It produces an abundance of seed, which is easily collected and readily vegetates on most kinds of soil under circumstances of different management; it soon arrives at perfection, and produces in its first years of growth a good supply of early herbage, which is much liked by cattle. These merits have, no doubt, upheld it till the present day in practice, and will probably, for some time, continue it a favorite grass with many farmers. But the latter-math of rye-grass is very inconsiderable, and the plant impoverishes the soil in a high degree if the culms, which are invariably left untouched by cattle, are not cut before the seed advances towards perfection. When this is neglected, the field after midsummer exhibits only a brown surface of withered straws.

Let the produce and nutritive powers of rye-grass be compared with those of the cocksfoot grass, and it will be found inferior in the proportion nearly of 5 to 18; and also inferior to the meadow fox-tail in the proportion of 5 to 12; and inferior to the meadow fescue in proportion of 5 to 17. In these comparisons, from which the above proportions arose, it was necessary to omit the seed crops from the truth of comparison.

Cocksfoot grass perfects an abundance of seed, and the plants arrive at a productive state as soon as those of rye-grass; hence its superiority over rye-grass, as above, is equally great for permanent pasture and the alternate husbandry; which is not so precisely the case with the fox-tail grass and meadow fescue. One peck of rye-grass, with 14 pounds of clover, per acre, is generally considered sufficient for sowing artificial pastures.

The proportions in which the seeds of the different species should be mixed for permanent pasture:—

Cocksfoot grass *(Dactylis glomerata)*	2 bushels
Meadow-fescue *(Festuca pratensis)*	2 "
Meadow fox-tail grass *(Alopecurus pratensis)*	2 bushels
Rough-stocked meadow-grass *(Poa trivialis)*	2 "
Tall oat-like soft-grass *(Holcus avenaceus)*	0½ "
Meadow cat's-tail *(Phleum pratense)*	15 pounds.
Hard, or smooth fescue *(Festuca duriuscula, vel glabra)*	2 bushels
Crested dog's-tail *(Cynosurus cristatus)*	1 "
Nerved meadow-grass *(Poa narvata)*	0½ "
Wood meadow-grass *(Poa nemoralis)*	1 "
Narrow-leaved meadow-grass *(Poa angustifolia)*	0¼ "
Broad leaved creeping bent, or fiorin *(Agrostis stolonifera, var. latifolia)*	0½ "
Rye-grass *(Lolium perenne)*	1 "
White, or Dutch clover *(Trifolium repens)*	15 pounds.
Bush vetch *(Vicia sepium)*	0½ bushel
Sweet-scented vernal grass *(Anthoxanthum odoratum)*	0¼ "
Perennial red clover *(Trifolium pratense perenne)*	12 pounds.
Achillea millefolium, yarrow	4 "

The proper quantity of grass seed to sow, per acre, is a point of the greatest importance, as regards the expense of the seed, and the speedy formation of the most valuable sward.

(To be continued.)

[From the Rutland Herald.]

Mr. Editor,—Having seen a statement of Mr. Jonathan Dyer's dairy, in your paper a few days since, I find it does not exceed the income of my own, nor, some of my neighbors. Therefore, I give you a statement of my dairy, the income of twenty-nine cows, which you may publish if you please.

16	calves killed for veal, averaging $3	$48 00
2	calves sold for 5 50	5 50
11	" disposed of at 4 days old at seventy-five cents	8 25
100	lbs. of butter sold in the spring at 9d.	12 50
7744	lbs. of cheese sold for seven cts. per pound	540 68
800	lbs. of cheese otherwise disposed of, and on hand	56 00
289	lbs. of skim-milk cheese sold for 3½ cents per pound	8 35
200	lbs. and ¾ of butter sold in Troy for 1s. 4d.	33 44
65	lbs. of butter on hand, worth 15 cents	9 75
		$722 47

The slop of the dairy, with about 20 bushels of corn, has made 1500 weight of pork, worth, (after deducting the corn) at $5 per hundred . . 65 00

We have sold shoats to the amount of twenty-eight dollars—and have as much worth in shoats at the commencement of the season . . . 28 00

$815 47

We have used as much milk and butter through the season, as the proceeds of three of the poorest cows. Leaving an income of $815,47 from twenty-six cows. EDW. WOODRUFF.

Tinmouth, Vt. Dec. 24, 1827.

[*To the Editor of the New York Farmer.*]

Dear Sir,—In a late number of the New England Farmer, p. 178, I observed a letter from Mr. Prince, giving some extracts from an Horticultural work about to be published by this gentleman. Under the head *Synonyms in Fruits*, he observes: "I have also noticed that a peach which is now selling as a new variety, by the high sounding name of *Emperor of Russia*, is the same fruit known for thirty years past under the unpretending title of *serrated leaved peach*."

As this remark appears to be a sort of oblique hit at me, I shall observe that both the "unpretending title," and the "high sounding name," of this fruit and its variety, were given by me and have been in my catalogue a number of years; and to clear myself from the imputation of "giving new names to old and well known fruit," I shall give you the history of this fruit as far as I know it. In the summer of 1808, I was over in the Jersey, at the English neighborhood at Mr. Paul Saunier's place, and in the rear of his house, and near the edge of a swamp, I observed a natural seedling peach; the leaves were very deeply serrated, differing from any peach I had hitherto seen. I was induced to take a shoot from it, and inoculate a few trees in my nursery, and called it by the name of *serrated leaved peach*. This name was not to my knowledge in any other catalogue at that time. I had not seen the fruit, the original tree being very young. I esteemed it as a curious variety only. In the summer of 1810, Mr. Saunier called over and informed me that the fruit of this serrated leaved peach was very fine and was without doubt, a new sort of peach, differing in all its characters from any other peach he ever knew of. And I here wish to remark that Mr. Saunier was a French gardener and a good judge of fruit, as well as a good practical botanist. It however remained in my catalogue by its former name. I raised many trees of this kind from seed all of which retained the character of the original, in the deep serrature of the leaf. Among these seedlings, was a very fine variety, the fruit being better than the original in many respects; and as all the others were inferior, I rejected them.—And this new seedling variety happening to come in about the time of the fatal disaster of the French army at Moscow, it appeared soon after in my catalogue by the name of the *Emperor of Russia*. I inoculated many of them, and sold them in 1815, by that name, as my catalogue of that date will show. I have been thus particular in the history of this fruit, not for the sake of argument and dispute, but for the sake of information, as it regards the *original name*; and shall consider that I had the right to give both the names myself until better informed. If it was so called 30 years ago, it was unknown to me, although it is not impossible; but it may be so: yet *if it was so*, undoubtedly some catalogue can be produced to prove this fact; and I *expect this proof*, or shall conclude it was not the case.

I wish also to observe that in the spring of 1810, I sent some of the trees of the former variety, to Messrs. Lee & Kennedy, of Hammersmith; and in 1822, I sent some of the latter variety to the London Horticultural Society, which appears in their transactions, and in their catalogue, by the name I gave it. I perfectly agree with Mr Prince, that the "rechristening" of old and well known fruits, is a bad practice, and generally arises from ignorance of the character of fruits; yet I do not pretend to say that every man who is a private cultivator, may not call his fruit by what name he pleases, not knowing the proper name. But surely practical and experienced nurserymen, ought not to fill up their catalogues with these fanciful names. It ought to be presumed that they would be cautious of new names, until they have proved the fruit, and examined it very carefully.

I remain, dear Sir,
Your obedient servant,
MICHAEL FLOY.

New York, January 5, 1828.

[From the Massachusetts Spy.]

ŒSOPHAGOTOMY.

On the 4th inst. a valuable cow of the Denton breed, belonging to Judge Paine of this place, became choked with a large turnip. Repeated attempts were made to reach it with the arm without success, and objections having been made to the propelling it into the stomach by means of a probang, in consequence of the size and condition of the turnip, (it being frozen) as a last resort, the operation called Œsophagotomy (the cutting into the Œsophagus or gullet) was proposed and carried into effect by Dr. Blood; who, at the request of Judge Paine, has furnished us with the following account of the operation: "The cow was cast upon the right side, and an incision, three inches in length, was made on the left side of the neck through the skin, directly over the place where the substance was lodged. The fat was carefully dissected away so as to avoid the jugular vein, which soon appeared. Parallel to this vein, the incision was continued with great caution, to avoid wounding the great artery of the neck, as far as the wind-pipe, near to or on the posterior side of which, the projection occasioned by the turnip, could be felt. This was cleared of the surrounding fat, leaving three inches of the gullet exposed. Firm pressure was then made on each side of the projection, by the fore and middle fingers of the left hand, so as to give the knife no chance of slipping, by the rolling of the turnip, which it was important to avoid, as the great carotid artery laid in contact with it, and might easily be wounded. One stroke of the knife, between the two fingers that confined the turnip, dislodged it. Three stitches were taken in the gullet, the external wound closed, and ten or twelve stitches taken in it to prevent the oozing from the gullet. A dressing of tow, dipped in equal parts of Galbanum and Burgundy pitch, melted, was applied, closing the aperture entirely. She refused to eat for two or three days, and then rejected meal and water, but greedily devoured the oat straw that composed her bed; and for the reason that the straw was formed into a wad by chewing, and would pass the wound better than a fluid. The result of this operation, proves that it is a safe one, and should be recommended in similar accidents, next to the attempt to extract the foreign substance by the hand; unless the circumstances of the case are such as to warrant the safety of propelling it into the stomach by means of the probang. When the operation is done, the animal ought not to be allowed to eat for three or four days, and then, rowen moistened with water should be the first food; if this is swallowed without much difficulty, the danger may be considered as over."

Curing of hams.—The article called *pyroligneous acid*, (or essence of smoke) is much used in the curing of hams, and is preferable to the usual mode, in being a great saving of trouble and expense, and (as we think) favors the quality also. Our mode is as follows: after the hams have been three or four weeks in salt and pickle, take three pints of the acid to one barrel of hams, and mingle it in the barrel with the pickle and salt, and let the hams lie therein for three or four weeks. They must then be washed off and hung up in a garret, or other dry place. They improve fast by age, and keep sweet in the hottest weather. After four years' experience we can safely recommend this mode.—*Long Island Star.*

A correspondent of the National Gazette, notices as an evil, the custom of charitable, wealthy ladies, in making needle-work and selling it at a reduced price, to aid societies—thereby injuring the industrious females who are compelled to resort to needle work for a support.

A writer in the Essex Register suggests the expedience of a Rail Road between Boston and Salem. The large amount of travel, and the practicability of a road almost level on this route, are strong recommendations to such an enterprise.

N. Y. Canals.—The amount of toll collected on the Erie and Champlain canals in 1827 was $859,058. In 1826 it was $762,004—increase in one year $97,054.

A useful society exists at Walpole, N. H. for the detection and punishment of horse thieves, pilferers and plunderers of gardens and fruit orchards.

A South Carolinian who lately travelled north, with strong prejudices against our manufacturing establishments, visited those at Dover, N. H. and returned home almost a convert to the "American System." He says:

"Though I would not advocate exclusive benefits or privileges to any, I would firmly advocate an extension of the fostering care of Government, and all the aid it can consistently render, in protecting this great interest.

"When I see one single concern in the North, will require each year from the Southern States *three thousand bales of Cotton*; from Virginia or Maryland, 800 barrels of Flour; from Pennsylvania, 1000 tons of Coal, and 30 hhds. Quercitron Bark, thousands and thousands of gallons of Oil from Nantucket; bleaching powders, acids, and all the variety of chemical preparations, from wherever they can be furnished: and all this for its own immediate consumption, without reference to the wants of the population connected therewith; and at the same time uniting us more closely in bonds of mutual dependence and mutual regard—I will pray for her prosperity, and contribute my feeble efforts for that object.—*Charleston Courier.*

The steamboat Columbia, employed in carrying the mail between Mobile and New Orleans, was entirely destroyed by fire on the night of the 20th ult. The master, crew, and passengers, had barely time to get ashore, leaving the letter-bag, containing the great Northern mail, clothing, and every thing else to the flames. The boat is believed to have been designedly set on fire.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, FRIDAY, JAN. 25, 1828.

ON FEEDING AND FATTENING CATTLE.

[Concluded from page 206.]

It has been ascertained, by repeated experiments, that food for swine, fermented till it becomes a little acid, will go farther and fatten the animals faster than unfermented food of the same quality. But, perhaps, it is not generally known, that acid food is valuable for neat cattle. *Bordley's Husbandry* asserts, that "oxen made half fat, or in good plight, on grass or turnips, are then very highly, and soon finished, in France, upon a *sour* food thus prepared; *rye meal*, (buck wheat or Indian corn meal may be tried,) with water is made into a *paste*, which in a few days ferments and becomes sour; this is then diluted with water, and thickened with hay, cut into chaff, which the oxen sometimes refuse the first day, but when dry they drink and prefer it. All the husbandmen are decidedly of opinion, that they fatten much better because of the acidity. They give it thrice a day, and a large ox thus eats twenty-two pounds a day. Maize [Indian] meal, or maize steeped till sour, should be tried. This sour mess is given during the last three weeks of their fattening, and they eat about seven and a half bushels of meal, value four dollars."

In attempting this mode of preparing food for cattle, care should be taken that the process of fermentation be not carried too far. The paste should not be permitted to become mouldy, nor the liquid food to be in the slightest degree putrid. It is best used in that state called the *saccharine* fermentation, or at farthest should not be suffered to pass the *vinous* fermentation.

There is, doubtless, good management in waiting till the animals become "half fat," or in "good plight," before they are fed with acid food. Acids or alcohol create appetite by stimulating the stomach, but if long continued they weaken the digestive powers, and in time injure, if not destroy, the tone of the stomach. The animal will then be afflicted with a disease similar to what in a human subject is denominated dyspepsia, and it will be hardly, if at all possible, to fatten him. The constitution of an ox as well as that of a human subject, may be destroyed by inactivity and rich food, and it is only near the last stage of his preparation for the butcher, that a fatting animal should be treated like an epicure, and indulged with as much as he can eat, of rich and high seasoned food. Store keep should neither be too rich nor too abundant; and it is said, that if an ox is once made fat, and then loses his flesh, it is nearly or quite impossible to fatten him a second time. If young cattle are kept in rich pastures in summer, and are poorly fed in winter, they not only lose flesh, but their disposition to acquire it. To such cattle, Mr. Lawrence alludes, when he says, "it is extremely imprudent, indolently to continue at high keeping animals which do not thrive. The first loss is always the least."

"Some cultivators will keep and summer-fat a considerable quantity of stock, but either neglect or seem ignorant how to provide winter provisions of sufficient quantity and quality for their support; the evil consequence of this error, is, that they are usually obliged to part with a considerable quantity of stock half fat, at great disadvantage, on the approach of winter; and of that which they retain, some are fed at an expense too great, whilst the bulk are left to encounter hunger, wet, cold, and to lose as much per head during the winter months as they are likely to gain in those of the following summer. But this plan of subjecting cattle to loss, or even to remain stationary, during the winter, is a great public and private disadvantage, partaking nothing at all of misfortune, but wholly of error and neglect. The business of fattening may, and ought to proceed equally in winter as in summer; and in store-feeding of cattle, the practice of keeping them hard, as we phrase it, (that is) exposing them, half fed, or half famished, to all the rage and inclemency of the elements, is absurd in the extreme. These scape goats pay nothing; but cattle comfortably wintered, and kept in good store condition would pay something; particularly, by requiring afterwards, much less time to fatten; and is it not our object to make the most and the speediest profit from them?"*

"Stock cattle," says Mr. Bordley, "are *kept*;" others are fattened. The feeding is different.—Cattle kept, need no kind of grain, nor even *hay*, unless to cows about calving-time. *Straw* with any *juicy* food, such as roots, or "drank,"† abundantly suffices for keeping cattle in heart through winter, provided they are sheltered from cold rains. Mr. Bakewell kept his fine cattle on *straw* and *turnips* in winter. A *drank* for *keeping* may be thus made; roots, chaff, or cut straw and salt, boiled together in a good quantity of water, the roots cut or mashed. The cattle drink the water and eat the rest. Drank for fattening cattle, thus; roots, meal, flax-seed, chaff or cut straw, and salt, well boiled together in plenty of water. If given warm, not hot, it is better." The same author says, "hay, meal, and linseed jelly, with drank, must be excellent food in stall fattening. Linseed jelly is thus made; seven parts of water to one of flax-seed, steeped in a part of the water 48 hours, then add the remaining water, cold, and boil *gently*, two hours, stirring constantly, to prevent burning. It is cooled in tubs, and given mixed with any meal, bran, or cut chaff. Each bullock (large) has two quarts of *jelly* a day; equal to a little more than *one quart of seed in four days*."

The following has been used by Col. Jaques, of Charlestown, (Mass.) with the best success for feeding cattle:

Take of roots, either carrots, mangel wurtzel, potatoes, or ruta baga, (cut fine), two bushels—wheat bran, one bushel—powdered oil-cake, half a bushel—English hay, salt hay, and straw, either barley, oat, or rye straw, cut, of each, seven bushels—water, ten gallons; let them be perfectly mixed.

The above quantity, has been found sufficient for twenty-one head of horned cattle, (part of which were full aged, and so down to yearlings) twenty-six sheep, and one Jack-ass; besides four horses having each half a bushel in the morning. The four horses had long hay at night; and if they labored hard, they had some grain in addition. This feed was given at sun-rise, and again the same quantity at sun-down, and no other food given. After each feed, the manger being licked up very clean, a small quantity of salt was strewed in the manger, to all except the horses; they were salted three times a week. After this, all the animals were curried, or carded and brushed, and then watered. By this mode of feeding, the mangers are left very clean, and the cattle's appetites appear as good when they have finished eating what is given them, as when they begin their meal; and they were all in good health and high condition in flesh. When the roots were carrots or mangel wurtzel, the cows gave nearly or quite as much good rich milk as when at common grass feed.

The cattle looked so fine, and the mangers were so clean, that the herdsman was frequently questioned to know if he did not feed between those meals, as it was thought not possible for the cattle to be kept in such high condition without more food.

Col. Jaques moreover informs us, that in consequence of his not being supplied for a number of days with salt hay, he supplied its place in the mixture with good English hay; but there was, in consequence of this alteration, a visible falling off in the condition of the animals; they however recovered their thriving condition again, on restoring the salt hay to the mixture. He thinks that the salt hay is useful in the compound, by exciting some degree of fermentation in the stomachs of the animals, by which saccharine and nutritious matter is developed.

A great advantage in feeding cattle, may in many cases be gained by boiling or steaming their food. Whether the advantage will more than balance the expense and trouble of the fuel, and preparation, depends on the price of fuel, labor, &c.; and it is a question on which every cultivator must decide for himself. We believe that few persons are sensible of the nature and extent of the gain which accrues from *cooking* some sorts of food for feeding domestic animals. It is a fact, which, perhaps, is not sufficiently known or realized, that water, in boiling farinaceous substances, not only prepares them for easier digestion, but by combining with them, becomes, by a chemical process, a valuable nutritious matter. Thus a pound of Indian meal, or of rice, when boiled gives more nourishment to man or beast, than several pounds in a raw state. Count Rumford, says, "from the result of actual experiment, it appears that for *each pound* of Indian meal employed in making hasty pudding, we may reckon *three pounds nine ounces* of the pudding"* And again, "three pounds of Indian meal, three quarters of a pound of Molasses, and one ounce of salt, having been mixed with five pints of boiling water, and boiled six hours produced a pudding which weighed *ten pounds and one ounce*."† The gain in weight in boiling rice is still greater. There can be no doubt that these mixtures must contain much more nourishment as well as more substance when boiled, than when raw; and as the additional *weight* must have been derived from water, incorporated with the constituent parts of the raw pudding, during the process of boiling, it would seem that a part, at least of the additional *nutriment* must have been acquired from the same source. It has also been ascertained, by experiments repeatedly made, that Indian corn and potatoes boiled or steamed, are more valuable for feeding swine than the same articles given raw. But whether Indian meal or other articles of sim-

* New Farmer's Calendar.

† *Drank* is a word used by Count Rumford for distinguishing this composition from simple water.

* Rumford's Essays, vol. i. page 258—Boston Edition.

† Ibid. Page 264.

ilar kind *fermented*, are as valuable as the same articles *boiled*, is a question which needs experiments to furnish data for its decision. But in all cases, care should be taken to use the *drank*, or fermented mixture, while it is yet sweet, after fermentation has commenced; or at farthest when it is just beginning to be sour.

We shall close these remarks with an article taken from the Farmer's Journal, printed in London, which we have already inserted [vol iv. page 210,] but republish for the benefit of recent subscribers: *Winter food for cows.* M. Chaubert, the director of the veterinary school of Alfort, had a number of cows which yielded twelve gallons of milk every day. In his publications on the subject, he observes that cows fed in the winter upon dry substances gives less milk than those which are kept upon a green diet, and also that their milk loses much of its quality. He published the following receipt, by the use of which his cows afforded him an equal quantity and quality of milk during the winter as during the summer: Take a bushel of potatoes, break them whilst raw, place them in a barrel standing up, putting in successively a layer of potatoes and a layer of bran, and a small quantity of yeast in the middle of the mass, which is to be left thus to ferment during a whole week, and when the vinous taste has pervaded the whole mixture it is then given to the cows, who eat it greedily.

To prevent the Effects of Poison of Lead on Painters, Glaziers, &c.—The physicians and surgeons of the Bath Hospital, in England, ordered the following cautions to be made public, to be observed particularly by printers or compositors, plumbers, glaizers, painters and other artificers.

To maintain the strictest temperance respecting distilled spirits, which had better be altogether forborne. To pay the strictest attention to cleanliness; and never, when it can be avoided, to daub their hands with paint, and particularly never to eat their meals nor go to rest without washing their hands and face. Not to eat or drink in the room or place wherein they work, and much less to suffer any food or drink to remain exposed to the fumes or dust of the metal in the rooms or warehouses. As the clothes of persons in this line (painters particularly) are generally observed to be much soiled with the colours they use, it is recommended to them to perform their work in frocks of ticking which may be frequently washed, and conveniently laid aside, when the workmen go to their meals, and again put on when they resume their work. Every business which can, in these branches, should be performed with gloves on the hands; and woollen or worsted gloves are recommended, as they may be often washed, which they should always be after being soiled with paint or even by much rubbing against the metal. Caution is necessary in mixing, or even in unpacking the dry colours, that the fine powder does not get into their mouths or be drawn in by their breath. A crape covering over the face might be of service, but care should be taken to turn always the same side towards the face, and to clean or wash it frequently. All artificers should avoid touching lead when hot; and this caution is especially necessary for printers or compositors, who have often lost the use of their limbs by handling the types when drying by the fire, after being washed. Glaziers' putty should never be made nor moulded by hand. An iron pestle and mortar would work the ingredients together at least equally well, and without hazard.

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES.

The Editor of the Columbian Reporter, in copying Mr Howard's Address from the New England Farmer of the 11th inst. accompanies it with the following remarks:

It is but a few years since, that books or publications of any description, relating to agriculture were derided every where by practical farmers.—It seemed not to be admitted that husbandry could be improved in the same way in which other arts have been advanced. A knowledge of the best modes of cultivation, could be obtained, in the opinion of most practical farmers, only by those who wrought the earth; and each, it would seem, thought his own way as good as any which had been or could be adopted. These opinions have, within a few years, happily been giving way to more rational, enlightened views. As evidence of the existence of better opinions on the subject of agriculture, we have noticed with much satisfaction the establishment of an Agricultural Library Company, in a neighbouring town, at the 1st annual meeting of which, this Address was delivered. This is the first association of the kind we have known, and it is creditable to the community in which it originated. The example may be advantageously followed in other places. Mr Howard is an intelligent, *practical* farmer, and it is gratifying to see such men combatting opinions, (as the latter part of the Addres more particularly does) which many engaged in the same pursuits have held, and probably still hold. The Address is worthy the notice of all who feel interested in the prosperity of agriculture.

Mr Fessenden—I wish to inquire through the medium of your useful paper, of some of your able correspondents, whether the piths from cattle's horns may not be worth pounding, or grinding for manure, and what kind of soil would be most benefitted thereby; also, whether the bark or tan from tanneries, may not be beneficial to some soils, or be worth burning for the ashes for manure.

Jan. 13, 1828. Yours, D. J

CARD.

☞ A. Parmentier, *the gentleman whose success in laying out Gardens and Pleasure Grounds is so well known, would wait on such Gentlemen in the vicinity of Boston as may wish his services in the course of the winter, provided immediate notice was given at the office of the New England Farmer.——His business will not permit him to leave at any other season; and in fact the season when there is no foliage on the trees, is more favorable for correct plans than any other. The expense attending the visit will be considerable, and it is hoped that those who wish to improve their grounds, will embrace this opportunity.*

New York, Jan. 22, 1828.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS.

For sale at the office of the New England Farmer, a variety of standard works on agriculture, horticulture, gardening, breeding of cattle, &c. among which are Deane's New England Farmer—Farmer's Assistant—Sinclair's Code of Agriculture—Loudon's Encyclopedia of Agriculture—Memoirs of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society—Hints to American Husbandmen—Lawrence's New Farmer's Calendar—Thacher's Orchardist—Coxe on Fruit Trees—Hayward on Horticulture—Fruit Grower's Instructer—Speechly on the Vine—M'Mahon's Gardener—Cobbett's American Gardener—Cobbett's Cottage Economy—Cobbett's Ride in France—Hogg on the Culture of Flowers—Kirwan on Manures—Bard on Sheep—Marshall on Gardening—Nicoll's Villa Gardener—Thorburn's do.—Holdich's Essay on Weeds—Agricultural Reader—Bonner on Bees—Bakewell on Wool—Gray's British Plants—Nuttall's Botany—Torrey's Botany—Farmer's, Mechanic's, and Sportsman's Magazine, &c.

Agricultural Libraries and others supplied on favorable terms.

Seeds for Country Dealers.

Traders in the country, who may wish to keep an assortment of Garden Seeds for sale, are informed they can be furnished at the New England Farmer office, No. 52 North Market street, Boston, with boxes containing a complete assortment of the seeds mostly used in a kitchen garden, on as favorable terms as they can be purchased in this country, neatly done up in small papers, at 6 and 12 cts each—warranted to be of the growth of 1827, and of the *purest quality.* Ornamental Flower Seeds will be added on the same terms, when ordered, as well as Peas, Beans, Early White Sweet Corn, &c. of different sorts.

Sheet Almanack.

Just published at the New England Farmer office, a Sheet Almanack for 1828.

Account Books, &c.

Just manufactured a complete assortment of *Account Books* made of the best materials and in the most approved modern style adapted to every capacity of business. *School Books, Bibles, &c.; Paper* of all kinds; the greatest variety of *Stationary, &c.* to be found in the city, may be had at unusual low prices, at No. 96 & 98 State street, two doors east of Merchants' Row, by JOHN MARSH.

J. M. is agent for P. Byrnes' Quill and Wafer Manufactory, New York. Also for Wm. Gordak's celebrated Medicine, and will supply all orders for their articles at their prices.

Dutch Bulbous Roots.

Just received at the office of the New England Farmer, a further supply of fine double and single Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissus, Tuberoses, Jacobean Lilies, Tiger Lilies, Ranunculus, &c.

Also, a few POTATO ONIONS—with every variety of *Garden Seeds, Flower Seeds, &c.*

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Corrected every Thursday evening.

			FROM	TO
APPLES, best,		bbl	1 75	2 00
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	- - -	ton.	95 00	97 50
pearl do.	- - - -		108 00	112 00
BEANS, white,	- - - - -	bush	1 25	1 50
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs. new,	-	bbl.	9 75	10 00
cargo, No 1, new,	- -		8 50	9 00
" No 2, new,	- -			7 50
BUTTER, inspect. No. 1. new,		lb.	14	16
CHEESE, new milk,	- - - -		7	10
skimmed milk,	- -		3	4
FLAX	- - - - - - - -			
FLAX SEED	- - - - - - -	bush	90	1 12
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St		bbl.	6 00	6 12
Genesee,	- - -		6 00	6 25
Rye, best,	- - -		3 00	3 [illegible]
GRAIN, Rye	- - - - -	bush	68	70
Corn	- - - -		60	63
Barley	- - - -		60	67
Oats	- - - - -		40	42
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort, new,	-	lb.		10
HOPS, No 1, Inspection	- -		9	10
LIME,	- - - - -	cask	70	1 00
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern		gal.	77	78
PLAISTER PARIS retails at		ton.	2 75	3 00
PORK, Bone Middlings, new, clear		bbl.	19 00	20 00
navy, mess, do.			14 00	15 00
Cargo, No 1, do.	- -		13 50	14 00
SEEDS, Herd's Grass,	- -	bush	2 25	2 75
Clover	- - - -	lb.	8	10
WOOL, Merino, full blood, wash			48	55
do do unwashed			20	25
do 3-4 washed			26	34
do 1-2 & ¼ do			28	30
Native	- - - do		22	27
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort			40	45
2d sort			30	35
do Spinning, 1st sort			30	35

PROVISION MARKET.

BEEF, best pieces	- - - -	lb.	8	12
PORK, fresh, best pieces,	- -		7	8
" whole hogs,	- - -		5½	7
VEAL,	- - - - - - -			
MUTTON,	- - - - - - -		4	8
POULTRY,	- - - - - - -		8	12
BUTTER, keg & tub,	- -		15	18
lump, best,	- - -		18	20
EGGS,	- - - - - - -		22	25
MEAL, Rye, retail,	- - - -	bush.		80
Indian, do.	- - - -			80
POTATOES, (new)	- - -		40	50
CIDER, (according to quality)		bbl	2 00	3 00

MISCELLANIES.

Juvenile Excesses.—The excesses of our youth are bills drawn on our old age, payable, with interest about thirty years after date.

Good Manners and Good Breeding.—Good manners is the art of making those people easy with whom we converse; and whoever makes the fewest persons uneasy is the best bred in the company. There is, however, an affected suavity of address, a mawkish mildness of manner, which looks like hypocrisy and flattery, is more disgusting to people of sense than almost any breaches of decorum, which do not indicate an intention of giving offence.

Pride, ill nature, and want of sense, are the three great sources of ill manners; without some of these defects, no man will behave himself ill for want of experience, or what is called knowledge of the world.

Health and Hilarity.—Cheerfulness is the best promoter of health. Repining and secret murmurs of the heart give imperceptible strokes to those delicate fibres, of which the vital parts are composed, and thus insensibly wear out the machinery of which the human frame is constituted.

Hard Words.—To say what you are certain will give unnecessary pain, is not only a breach in manners but in morals; and he who wantonly wounds the feelings with "words far bitterer than wormwood," would wield the tomahawk and scalping knife if he could with impunity.

Another Warning.—We are informed by a correspondent in Southborough, that on the 7th ult. Doct. B——, of that town received a letter, of which the following is a copy:

"Sir—I consign my remains to be dissected at discretion, at the Medical College.

Cause—Tedium Vitæ or a certain cure for intemperance has induced me effect it. No obsequies is asked. In the pine grove near Mr E. Flagg's I shall be found.

The signature we purposely omit. On examination, the body was indeed found in the place pointed out. It appeared in evidence, that he drank about a quart and half a pint of rum at once, which produced insensibility and, apoplexy, followed by death in about 24 hours; thus adding another victim, sacrificed at the shrine of intemperance, and affording another warning to those who are addicted to similar habits.—*Worcester Spy.*

Extraordinary account of a Shark.—We remember, some years ago, while sitting on the quarter deck of a West Indiaman, borne rapidly along before the trade wind, and the captain and passengers were amusing themselves by telling stories and cracking jokes to beguile the sameness of the voyage. It came at last to the turn of a gentleman, remarkable for his love of cigars and taciturnity; one who enjoyed a good anecdote, but abhorred the trouble of relating it himself. He was, however, so strongly importuned on this occasion that without much reluctance, he related the following interesting fact, by fits and starts, filling up each pause by vigorous whiffs of his favorite weed:—

In the year 1820, the good ship Rambler sailed from Greenock with goods and passengers, towards Jamaica. She had crossed the tropic, and one day, when nearly becalmed, the steward, who had the care of the captain's plate, had occasion after dinner, to wash some spoons and other articles in a bucket, and thinking he had taken them all out of the water, he chucked it over the gangway, when to his vexation, he found he had thrown out with it a valuable silver table spoon. He saw it shining through the clear blue ocean, and wavering from side to side as it sank from his view. Several sharks had been observed near the ship, and it is known they generally dart upon any thing white, a piece of rag often serving for a bait. He did not, however, observe any of them near the spot at the time:—and the captain being a testy man, he kept the secret of the loss to himself, and the matter was soon forgotten.

The ship in due time reached Jamaica, and when the circumstance became known, the value of the spoon was deducted from the wages of the steward. The vessel lay some time at Kingston, received on board a cargo of sugar, and proceeded on her homeward voyage. When crossing nearly the same spot on the aqueous world where the spoon was lost, a number of sharks again showed their tail fins above the water as they cut along the ship's side, or in her wake; and a shark hook being baited with a piece of salt pork, was lowered over the stern. Presently one of the largest of these devouring monsters, or as the sailors call them, "*Sea Lawyers*," half turning on its side, took the huge bait into his pig-like but tremendous jaws, and was securely hooked. The fish was with difficulty hauled alongside and hoisted in upon deck, where it flapped about and showed prodigious strength and tenacity of life. When its struggles were ended by a blow on the head with a mallet, one of the men proceeded to open it. His jack-knife soon came in contact with something in its belly, and—" said the narrator, with earnestness, "what do you think was really found?"—"Why the spoon of course!" exclaimed the listeners simultaneously. "The spoon!" he rejoined with a smile, 'No! No!"—"What then?" they hastily enquired. "Why, nothing but the entrails, to be sure!" The taciturnity of our waggish messmate was not again disturbed for another story during the voyage.

A cow six years old belonging to Mr. Ezra Wetherbee, of Harvard, was slaughtered on the 10th inst. weighing *eight hundred and eighty-four pounds!* She had been milked during the present winter, and on the morning she was killed, gave more than two quarts of milk. The tallow weighed *one hundred and twenty-three pounds.*—*Concord Gazette.*

At Macon, in Georgia, on Christmas day *Watermelons* were exposed for sale in the market.

The centre of gravity.—Two thirds of our ordinary motions are governed by the habitual necessity we find of preserving the centre of gravity. When a man rises from a chair, he is seen first to bend the body forward, so as to bring the centre of gravity over the feet or base, and then he lifts it up. If he lift too soon, that is, before the body be sufficiently advanced, he falls back again. A man standing with his heels close to a perpendicular wall, cannot bend forward to pick up any thing that lies on the ground near him, without himself falling forward, because the wall prevents him from throwing part of his body backward, to counterbalance the head and arms that must project forward. A man little versed in such matters, offered ten guineas for permission to try, under these circumstances, to possess himself of a purse of £20 laid before him; he of course lost his money.

The painful affection called sea sickness, has a relation also to this topic. Man requiring always to maintain his perpendicularity, insensibly regulates and ascertains that point by the fixed and known position of objects about him. Hence, on shipboard, where the lines of the masts, windows, furniture, &c. are constantly changing, sickness, vertigo, and other affections of the same class, are common to persons unaccustomed to ships. Many experience similar effects in carriages and in swings, or on looking from a lofty precipice, where known objects being distant, and viewed under a new aspect, are not so readily recognised; also in walking on a wall or a roof, in looking directly up to a roof, or to the stars in the zenith, because then all standards disappear; on walking into a round room, where there are no perpendicular lines of light and shade, as when the walls and roof are covered with a spotted paper without regular arrangement of spots; on turning round as in waltzing, or on a wheel; because the eye is not then allowed to rest on the standards.

When Dr. Franklin had approached to the very close of his life, he reasoned thus coolly with a friend; "Death is as necessary to the constitution as sleep, we shall rise as refreshed in the morning. The course of nature must soon put a period to the present mode of existence. This I shall submit to with less regret, as having seen during a long life, a good deal of this world, I feel a growing curiosity to become acquainted with some other. I can with cheerful confidence resign my spirit to the conduct of that great and good parent of mankind, who created it, and who has so graciously protected me from my birth to the present hour."

Newburyport Herald says, that "a family of interesting children in that town came nigh being suffocated a few nights since, by means of a warmer with ignited charcoal being placed in a chamber without a fire-place, where they were in bed."

Steel.—A Mr. Mackintosh, in Scotland, has lately taken out a patent for a new process of making steel, by impregnating the iron at a higher temperature than heretofore, with carbon in a gaseous form.

Lucerne Seed.

A few hundred pounds of fresh Lucerne seed, by the pound or hundred weight, for sale at the N. E. Farmer office.

White Mustard Seed.

For sale at the office of the New England Farmer, the best English White Mustard seed, by the pound or bushel.

Siberian Parsley.

Just received at the office of the New England Farmer, a few lbs. Siberian Parsley Seed. This plant is perfectly hardy, *standing our severest winters:* and would probably be the best sort to sow with grass, as recommended in the last New England Farmer, as well as for cultivation in gardens. The Seed was originally procured from Russia, a few years since, by a gentleman in this vicinity. Jan. 4.

Early Peas, Tree Onion, Poppy Seed, &c.

For sale at the New England Farmer office, fresh Seed of the Large Poppy, Early Peas, Tree Onion, White Clover, Lima Squash, &c. with the greatest variety of Seeds to be found in New England.

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